IMPERIAL
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOR THE WEST INDIES.

BUREAU
OF MYCOLOGY

REPORT

ON THE

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT, ST. LUCIA, 1925.

ISSUED BY THE IMPERIAL COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE FOR THE WEST INDIES.

[Price Sixpence.]

PRINTED BY THE GOVERNMENT PRINTER AT THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE, CASTRIES, ST. LUCIA.

1926.

FORWARDING DISEASED SPECIMENS FOR EXAMINATION.

PLANTS.

A few fragments of a diseased plant are of practically no value for scientific investigation.

Sufficient material should always be sent so that the primary cause of the trouble may be located.

Full particulars should be given as to the nature and extent of the damage done, the part of the plant attacked, the nature of the soil, drainage, the prevalence of disease, when it was first noticed, and whether any similar kind of disease has been previously observed in the neighbourhood.

Specimens of portions of plants attacked by fungi may be sent green packed in a well-ventilated box if the time taken for delivery is under 24 hours; but if delivery takes a longer time all leaves or soft fruits should be placed in a bottle or corked tube containing a solution made of 1 part of rum or methylated spirit and 2 parts of water. As many stages of the disease as possible should be sent, with notes as to the nature of each stage.

All specimens should be accompanied with detail particulars of the nature of the disease and should be addressed to :—

THE AGRICULTURAL SUPERINTENDENT,
BOTANIC GARDENS,
CASTRIES.

INSECTS.

Observations and specimens of economic importance or otherwise will always be gladly received.

The following directions should be observed in this respect :—

Living insects should be placed with a supply of the plant on which they are found feeding and the box should have small holes pierced for the purpose of ventilation. This should be carefully packed in such a way as to prevent their becoming crushed in transit.

If it is desired to preserve specimens they should be put in bottles with tightly fitting corks, methylated spirits, diluted rum, etc., making excellent preserving fluids.

Scale insects etc., should be forwarded on the portion of the plant on which they are found.

If in doubt as to the best method of forwarding specimens, a letter should be sent asking for instructions and stating full details.

In all cases full particulars should be forwarded as to the nature and extent of damage done, along with any other important points that may have been noticed.

All specimens should be addressed :—

THE AGRICULTURAL SUPERINTENDENT,
BOTANIC GARDENS,
CASTRIES.

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

THE IMPERIAL DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOR THE WEST INDIES,
AMALGAMATED WITH
THE IMPERIAL COLLEGE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE.

TRINIDAD, 16th June, 1926.

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit the report on the working of the Agricultural Department, St. Lucia, for the year ended December 31, 1925.

2. The report which has been prepared by Mr. E. A. Walters deals fully with the routine work of the Department.

3. The development of the Banana industry in which the officers of the Department take a keen interest, appears to be progressing satisfactorily.

4. The production of Alfalfa seed and the satisfactory growth of clovers is a very useful result.

5. The situation as to the Agricultural Credit Societies is still unsatisfactory, and nothing seems to remain but to close up their affairs.

I have, &c.,

H. A. BALLOU,
Assistant Commissioner of Agriculture
for the West Indies.

His Honour
The Administrator,
St. Lucia.

STAFF OF THE AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT, ST. LUCIA.

E. A Walters, F.R.H.S., F.R.Met. Soc. ..	Agricultural Superintendent and Land Officer.
R. W. Niles	Overseer and Agricultural Officer, Inspector Agricultural Credit Societies.
E. B. Smith *	Foreman and Agricultural Instructor, Reunion.
B. Joshua *	Junior Agricultural Assistant.
E. L. Daniel	Junior Agricultural Assistant.
W. W. Arno	Clerk to Agricultural Superintendent.
A. M. Y. Warrican *	Clerk Government Lime Juice Factory.
J. Sanchez S. Joseph }	Banana Inspectors.

* Vacated.

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SAINT LUCIA.

Report on the Agricultural Department for the year ended December 31, 1925.

WORK IN THE BOTANIC GARDENS, AND OBSERVATIONS ON PLANTS.

As the financial position of the Colony has required every possible economy the expenditure of the Agricultural Department has accordingly been restricted and agricultural activities have been of a more or less routine nature.

The continued need for economy has prevented an early conclusion of the more extensive operations mentioned in the Annual Report for 1924 and work has been mainly confined to keeping the Gardens in good condition.

The construction of the Public Lawn Tennis Courts has also temporarily interrupted any attractive development over about one-third of the Gardens, the remaining two-thirds around the main drive and Office have been kept in good condition ; one Tennis Court has been completed and is now open to the Public.

The removal of the hedge of *Pandanus Veitchii* has allowed a better appreciation of the line of graceful Royal palms *Oreodoxa regia* H.B. & K. now about twenty five years old and about thirty feet high ; a second line of dwarf palms of different kinds is being established near the former, the border in which these stand is being turned into lawn and enclosed by a wire fence with a gate giving access to the Tennis Courts.

The grass border commenced early in the year is nearing completion, about three hundred tons of garden refuse have been laid down as a foundation for the lawn in which beds of ornamental plants are being established as settling permits.

Space has been reserved elsewhere in the Gardens for a collection of Musæ which will include both edible bananas and ornamental representatives of this genus.

Dressings of leaf-mould have been incorporated in the borders and lawns, and it is noteworthy in this respect that an enormous consumption of organic matter takes place continuously throughout the Gardens, due mainly to the coral (lime) foundation, which adds materially to the problem of upkeep.

Hedges of thorny shrubs are being gradually established in an effort to reduce inroads and petty theft ; the level of the main drain has been raised in order to prevent flooding by sea water at every high tide.

The most effective flowering trees during the year were *Monodora tenuifolia* Don. April; the Poui-Poui—*Tecoma serratifolia* Don. May ; the Queen of Flowers—*Lagerstræmia flos-reginæ* L. May and June, and October and November ; *Cassia nodosa* in June and *Brownea coccinea* Loefl. in August.

It is proposed to supplement the present collections of trees and shrubs by re-establishing specimens of the more valuable decorative plants from stock now at Reunion.

A continuous supply of decorative plants has been maintained in the nurseries ; propagation and the general care of the Gardens has however been seriously hindered by the absence of a reliable Foreman.

The total expenditure for the Botanic Gardens including " Labour " was £106 9 8 for the year.

The large cabinet containing the Kennaway Collection of Birds presented in 1917 has been removed from the Office in the Gardens to the Carnegie Public Library.

AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION, REUNION.

Plant and Seed Importation.

The following plants and seeds have been introduced and are gratefully acknowledged :—

Cinnamomum camphora Nees., and *Adenant horapavonina* L., seeds from the Director of Agriculture, Trinidad ; *Elæis guineensis* var. *communis* form *dura* Jacq., *Dendrocalamus sikkimensis* Gamble., both from the Director, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, through the Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture, Trinidad ; *Nicotiana tabacum*, *Carica Papaya* L., from the Superintendent of Agriculture, Montserrat ; and *Casuarina glauca* Sieber., *Callitris calcarata* R.Br., and *Tristania conferta* R.Br., from Mr. John Frew, Soufrière ; Alfalfa and Clovers were introduced from the United States.

Seeds and Plant Exchange—Foreign and Local.

Plants were sent to the Imperial Department of Tropical Agriculture and plants and seeds to various planters and Public Institutions in the Colony.

WORK AT THE EXPERIMENT STATION.

Owing to a rapidly growing demand for propagated plants it became necessary to conduct nursery work on a much more extensive scale than formerly and an endeavour was also made to accelerate methods of propagation.

Large numbers of seedling limes grown from selected seed have been distributed ; a further supply is being prepared in spite of dry weather by an improved method of germination in which the lime seeds are germinated in beds covered by a light mulch of dried grass, which has been found to regulate the water requirements of the seeds and so reduce hand watering, and, in addition, birds are discouraged from digging up the softened seed body.

The type of lime as grown at Reunion is hardy and comes to maturity early owing to the young plants being well exposed to the sun and air and grown with a minimum of water and a moderate supply of humus. These conditions tend to produce a virile tree giving a maximum crop and it is undesirable to introduce changes which, though these hasten growth, may impair the productivity of the tree ; the above conditions should be duplicated in making lime nurseries on private estates.

Propagation of selected mangoes, avocados and citrus plants has been facilitated by raising wild stocks from collected seed sown in beds, the seedlings being subsequently grown on in pots, and these, being well rooted and established, are immediately available for approach grafting and for budding. The expense entailed in purchasing wild plants locally is thus avoided and a considerable economy in time effected.

Propagation of Bougainvillea and other plants unsuccessful as ordinary (stem) cuttings has been accomplished by the use of root cuttings.

Owing to numerous local orders it has been found necessary to concentrate on these to the exclusion of overseas orders for the present, such overseas orders as have been accepted are being completed as early as possible.

Attention is called to the marked increase in delivered orders as against 1924 :—

Plant Distribution.

The following table shows the distribution of plants, seeds and cuttings from the Department during 1925 :—

Plants—Economic		(number.)	(number.)	
Lime (seedlings)	... ...	11,581		
Citrus (budded)	... ...	257		
Mango (grafted)	... ...	103		
Pineapple (plants)	... ...	110		
Dolichos (plants)	... ...	612		
Melinis (clumps)	... ...	200		
Elephant grass (clumps)	... ...	50		
Various economics	.. ...	64		
	Total	12,977	4,812	(1924)

Cuttings—Economic			
Uba cane plants (cuttings) ...	4,300		
Camphor	100		
Various (for wind-breaks) ...	550		
	4,950	2,425	(1924)
Seeds—Economic			
Horse beans	15 lbs.		
Onion	5 „		
Camphor (number)	50		
Mango „	350		
Vegetable seeds (packets) ...	87		
Plants—Ornamental			
Miscellaneous	223		

NOTES ON PLOTS AT THE AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION, REUNION.

Sugar Cane Seedlings. The varieties of sugar canes derived from BA 6032 and B 6450 as listed in the Annual Report for 1924 have been examined for total yield and sucrose content and the best of these are being grown on for distribution as cuttings and plants to selected estates ; when distributed the varieties should be increased by propagation and given good cultivation on cane lands in order to compete effectually with present varieties, field and factory results will then demonstrate their commercial value.

The varieties are plant canes grown in two rows at four feet by four feet forming plots about one-fortieth of an acre, cultivation consisted of digging, manuring, hoeing and trashing the canes on the estate system ; the soil was clay loam inclined to be heavy with an absence of lime, the rainfall was slightly above the average (= 60 inches) being about sixty-four inches for the year.

The following method was used in examination of the varieties :—

The total crop was taken from each of five average stools derived from cuttings of each variety planted out, the yield for each stool and average yield being recorded ; the composition of these yields as tops and milling cane is shown as percentage tops and cane in the accompanying table.

The milling canes were then mixed and a sample of twenty pounds of cane carefully split was passed through a Squires Hand Mill until the fibre was relatively dry, care being taken to collect all fibre and cane juice ; the weights of each product are shown as percentage fibre and juice.

The density of the juice was immediately taken and a filtered sample prepared for polarisation ;—to 100 ccs. of juice was added 6—7 ccs. of lead acetate (sp.g.1.25) pure water being added to make up to 110 ccs., this sample was filtered and polarised in a 20 ccs. tube under the Ventzke scale, the degree of polarity was determined as per cent. sucrose (corrected for increase in volume of 1 in 10 parts) the saccharine content being shown as pounds of sucrose per gallon of juice.

Each variety and sample was treated on the above lines, corrections were made for varying temperature or other factors.

The tonnage of cane per acre is given only approximately owing to the small plots used, the number of stools per acre is estimated to be 2,000.

The gallons of juice per ton of cane is calculated from proportionate plot yields.

Composition of St. Lucia Seedlings.

BA. 6032	Cane.					Juice.	
Seedlings 1921.	tops per cent	cane, per cent	fibre, per cent	Juice, per cent	cane, tons per acre.	juice, gallons per ton.	sucrose, lbs. per gallon.
St. Lucia							
4A	23	77	40	60	18·4	122	1·28
S.L.6.	20	80	42	58	22·7	121	1·80
S.L.6A.	29	71	41	59	13·9	118	1·61
S.L.9.	23	77	38	62	17·7	128	1·30
S.L.10.	29	71	40	60	21·7	123	1·57
S.L.13.	29	71	37	63	14·1	130	1·18
S.L.14.	28	72	39	61	20·6	124	1·39
S.L.16.	31	69	43	57	33·1	116	1·41
S.L.16.A.	22	78	45	55	24·8	109	1·43
S.L.21.	33	67	42	58	17·1	112	1·32
B. 6450							
Seedlings.							
St. Lucia							
33	27	73	42	58	17·8	116	1·32
S.L.34.	27	73	46	54	19·2	109	1·48
S.L.41.	29	71	41	59	29·5	120	1·55
B.A.11569 var:							
	31	69	39	61	16·4	123	1·61

A similar sample of BA 11569 (included above) was made for comparison, this cane received identical treatment throughout.

Discussion.

As no intensive cultivation was practised it is probable that higher yields can be obtained with better cultivation, the ratooning value of the varieties should be determined by further experiments, at present it is generally believed of the parents of these canes that BA 6032 is a good ratooner whilst B 6450 gives only moderate yields.

For the small cane farmer and stock-keeper a soft cane with ample tops, little fibre and a large amount of juice is essential for manufacture of syrup over open tayches fired by cut fuel ; such canes are varieties Nos. S.L. 9, S.L. 13, S.L. 14, S.L. 21, and S.L. 41.

For factory use a cane is required with a fair amount of fibre (megass) for use as fuel, giving a high tonnage and sucrose return per acre, such canes are varieties Nos. S.L. 6, S.L. 10, S.L. 14, S.L. 16, S.L. 16A, and S.L. 41.

The best six seedlings according to tonnage of canes per acre are :—

Number.	Tons per acre.
S.L. 16	33·1
S.L. 41	29·5
S.L 16A.	24·8
S.L. 6	22·7
S.L. 10	21·7
S.L. 14	20·6

The best six canes in terms of pounds of sucrose per gallon of juice are :—

Number.	Sucrose lbs. per gallon of juice.
S.L. 6	1·80
S.L. 6A.	1·61
S.L. 10	1·57
S.L. 41	1·55
S.L. 34	1·48
S.L. 16A.	1·43

Uba Cane.

A large number of Uba plants have been raised and distributed as cuttings for planting nurseries and these are now well established ; this variety has made excellent progress in the field, its factory qualities locally have not been really tested and no changes in factory technique have yet been made to deal with the increased colloidal content in the juice.

One instance only of Uba failing to thrive has been received, in this case the planting site was situated at the base of a hill and consisted of heavy loam interspersed with broken stones into which a constant infiltration of drainage water was received, the site in fact resembled a moraine.

Root devolpment was poor owing to defective aeration which the drainage trenches had failed to remedy ;—it was advised that the stools should be removed to a well aerated and drier part of the estate.

In addition to Uba canes imported and propagated by the Department for distribution large orders have been handled for delivery to sugar estate companies and cane planters, a total of thirty thousand Uba cuttings have thus been introduced.

In common with all plant introductions quarantine regulations were carried out, the canes being inspected and in this case fumigated and soaked in lime water, the latter measure has been found to secure a higher germination of cuttings and also precludes fungus development externally ; no outbreak of disease or pest has been recorded from these importations.

Future Sugar Cane Experiments.

It has been suggested by the Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture with regard to sugar cane experiments that as the problem of providing the necessary apparatus and technique for production of new varieties of canes cannot be met by the local Department, future advance in improvement of sugar cane should be directed to importing and testing valuable new varieties and adapting these to local use.

The writer is in entire accord with the proposal in view of his experiences with the available labour in an endeavour to arrange technique and maintain critical experimental conditions ; at the same time the possibility of introduction of diseases or pests on new varieties will need to be met and experimental work will have to be carried out under isolation conditions.

The technique of production of seedling canes has advanced considerably of recent years and now involves systematic research on the anatomy and physiology of all parts of the cane plant with their chemical reactions, these problems are beyond the resources of a local Agricultural Department.

Varietal Cane Plots.

Plots of cane of current varieties collected and grown at the Station have been established in the upper part of the cane field for experimental work to determine the general usefulness of these varieties and their comparative local value ; the plots are arranged in rows throughout the field so as to allow fair comparison between varieties ; supplies of cuttings can be obtained from these varieties for estate introduction.

Note.—Work on the samples was greatly facilitated by the kind loan of a Polariscope from one of the large Sugar Factories.

BAY TREES. (*Pimenta acris*).

The plot of Bay trees was cultivated as usual by weeding, digging and green manuring, no leaf crop was available during the year owing to the late crop collected during October and November of 1924, the 1925 crop being made in March of the present year.

The figures for this crop now being available are included in this Report.

The Management of the local Bay Oil Factories have been interested in this enquiry and generously took over the crops of the respective varieties for separate distillations in the Factory Still under supervision, the percentages of oil and phenols have been ascertained and are recorded against the leaf crop for each variety :—

Year.	Variety.	Total weight leaves (lb).	Average yield 1 tree (lb).	Yield. Per cent.	Oil. lb.	Phenols. Per cent.
1924	Trinidad ...	426	38·0	77·4	...	...
1925	Trinidad ...	543	49·4	99·8	1·28	31
1924	Dominica ...	676·5	56·4	112·8	...	..
1925	Dominica ...	598	49·8	99·6	1·68	17
1924	Montserrat ..	610	47·0	94·0	...	...
1925	Montserrat ...	561	43·2	86·4	1·17	61
1924	St. Lucia ...	264·5	24·0	48·0	...	...
1925	St. Lucia ...	325	32·5	65·0	(a) 1·00 (b) 1·00	(a) 65 (b) 52

Leaf Yields.

The yield of leaves for the Dominica variety continues high but is slightly exceeded by that for the Trinidad trees, the leaf yield for St. Lucia trees has improved but continues to be low, the Montserrat yields are intermediate and fair.

Oil and Phenol Contents.

The Dominica variety gives a high yield of oil, 1·68 per cent., but its phenol content is low, 17 per cent., and is exceeded by the Trinidad phenol content of 31 per cent., though the oil yield of these trees is somewhat lower, 1·28 per cent.

The Montserrat variety with a low oil content, 1·17 per cent., is rich in phenols, containing 61 per cent. ; the St. Lucia variety examined for oil and phenols consisted of leaves provided by the Factory as owing to a mishap the experimental leaves were unsatisfactory for testing—the Factory leaves which consisted of two samples (a) and (b) of leaves from different localities gave but 1 per cent. of oil, the phenol content however was high in both cases being 65 per cent. for (a) and 52 per cent. for (b).

A further series of tests will be necessary to determine the oil and phenols content of the St. Lucia experimental variety before a true comparison can be made, the following suggestions are nevertheless admissible :—

In marketing bay oil the product is sold on the phenol content at 61 per cent. or more, anything below 61 per cent. being regarded as low grade ; it follows that matured leaves should be selected in order to obtain a high percentage of phenols, oils of low phenol content can then be used to adulterate the higher grade to a specific standard, in this way the trees with low phenol yield but high cropping power *i.e.* Trinidad and Dominica, may be utilised in conjunction with high phenol yielding trees with a small crop *i.e.* Montserrat and St. Lucia.

A wider use for the heavy cropping trees with low phenol content would be in bay rum manufacture where a large amount of oil is the main consideration ; high cropping varieties will also yield more per acre and per task than the low cropping varieties, with a proportionate reduction in expenditure on cultivation.

More attention is being given to cultivation of bay on estate lines and further advance in this direction will include the provision of plants for establishing bay cultivation for which a demand has already arisen.

COCONUTS.

The common tall varieties of coconuts planted at Reunion are improving in the number and size of nuts carried and provision will be made to dispose of the larger crop by shipping the dry nuts, records will be kept of the yield to determine the economic value of coconut plantations on this type of soil with an average rainfall of 60 inches per annum.

The lower part of the coconut plantation situated in the Reunion Reserve has been given out to small holders for planting of temporary crops in order to keep the ground free from bush and to maintain tilth.

One row of mature trees in the Station plot has been removed in order to allow of full development of the remaining trees the spacing between these being originally 25 feet by 25 feet.

Dwarf Coconuts.

The dwarf nuts planted in 1921 have developed good bases and flowering of some of the plants is expected during 1926 ; these varieties show marked variations in dwarfness, the Green variety now about ten feet high is taller and more robust than the Yellow or Red varieties which are about six feet high.

The imported Green, Red and Yellow varieties from the Federated Malay States planted in 1923 have also made good progress and are now about three feet high. Both plantings have benefited by green mulches and drainage while there has been practically no attack of White Fly (*Aleyrodicus cocois* Curtis) this year and all palms are well provided with foliage.

The prevalence of White Fly and other sucking insects *e.g.* Scale, and Green Fly considerably reduces the vigour of young palms particularly when planted in cane fields or bush as is common practice in St. Lucia and palms thus attacked lose most of the lower leaves owing to the consumption of the cell-sap by the pest. A moderate control is provided by thoroughly trashing the canes which exposes the palm leaves and removes the shelter provided by the adhering cane trash.

Limes.

The common lime plot has been an object of interest by its demonstration of recovery from die-back conditions to productive growth, the trees continue to yield a good crop the fruit being now of medium size with a good acid point, 13 ounces, Citric Acid per gallon.

The usual weeding, digging and mulching programme has been carried out in the plot . water has been laid on to one part of this plot so that irrigation may be practised during dry weather, these limes can then be compared with the limes solely dependent on rainfall ; up to the present the observations indicate no apparent benefit—such benefit will become appreciable over a longer period and in drier weather, the closing season has been one of well distributed monthly rainfall although amounting to only 65·5 inches for the year and this has kept the trees in continuous growth the usual resting period being occupied by light crops.

Spineless Limes.

These limes have received similar treatment without irrigation, the fruit is markedly larger than formerly, its acid point is higher than the common lime, 13·3 ounces Citric Acid, but it is still a smaller fruit than the common lime.

Crop records of both varieties were taken from July to December and show that so far the common lime yields 9·8 pounds of lime to 8·3 pounds yield by the Spineless variety ; that the Spineless lime comes into crop heavily when the common variety has passed its maximum crop ; that certain trees of each variety consistently crop much higher than the average tree.

Both lime plots are unshaded but are provided with wind-breaks thus fulfilling an essential principal of successful lime cultivation.

Pineapples.

The new plot of Pineapple, Black Antigua, established in the upper part of the Station has made fair progress, growth has been slow owing to wet weather occurring before the plants were well established.

Interest in this fruit has declined owing to the attention given to Banana and Lime cultivation.

Inquiries made in several quarters for supplies of other good varieties of pines have so far not resulted in new introductions.

Bananas.

The investigations conducted by the writer (reported in Annual Report 1924 under this head) which resulted in the adoption of the section system of banana planting have proved invaluable in commencing and maintaining healthy banana plantations and the system having been uniformly successful is now incorporated in all plantations working under the advice and with the cooperation of the Department.

The section system of planting is conducted as follows :—

Large healthy bull-heads are prepared by pruning the pseudo-stem hard back so as to remove the central bud, the leaf bases and roots are pared clean away ; thus is formed a rough oval or roundish "corm" containing the root structure and short stem with its buds seen as swellings around the upper half.

Such a corm if about twelve inches in diameter or more is cut into four sections each containing two or three buds, fewer sections being made if the corm is small, a corm of diameter less than eight inches can only be halved ; a clean cut is made by a sharp cutlass or an axe from top to bottom of the corm and the two halves are similarly divided, any ragged surfaces or sharp angles being pared down leaving the section with smooth, clean surfaces.

Each section should be examined for symptoms of Panama Disease—streaks or threads ranging in colour from chocolate-brown through red to pale yellow which may appear in the stem or root structure ; affected bull-heads, sections and trimmings should be burned and the tools sterilised by fire or disinfectant.

The sections are coated with slaked white lime, woodash, or dipped in lime water and are then ready for planting in prepared holes.

Sectioning of bull-heads gives a further opportunity to remove weevils or large borers but severely infected material should be destroyed.

In estate practice large accumulations of bull-heads in readiness for sectioning are dealt with by soaking in lime water for forty-eight hours. This drives out mature weevils and borers but it does not destroy the eggs and probably not all the larvæ.

Viability of the Weevil, (*Cosmopolites sordidus* Germar.) and the Banana Borer (*Tomarus bituberculatus* Beaud.)

The resistance of the weevil and borer to long immerson in water was tested in an experiment during 1925, in this case the variety Macabou usually badly infested was used as host, clean plants being purposely infected by varying numbers of weevils which were netted in with the host for a period of three months.

At the end of that time the plants after soaking for forty-eight hours in water were examined—weevils in the adult stage were found alive and galleries were numerous, in some cases the bulbs being badly decayed.

It was further determined by soaking in water, lime water and weak disinfectant that weevils and borers could survive the effects of these fluids up to a period of twelve, four and five days respectively when not totally immersed, total immersion in lime water was most effective in exciting the weevils and borers to escape and in killing these when immersed.

Soaking of planting material in lime water for forty-eight hours has now been adopted as an effective measure in reducing weevils and borers without incurring injury to the plant, by this method risk of fungoid infection is also reduced.

The plot of Canary or Governor banana (*Musa Cavendishii* Paxt.) mentioned in the previous report has carried a good crop of bunches of from six to nine hands weighing from fifteen to forty-five pounds. When planted as sections this variety may take eighteen to twenty months to fruit in a dry situation owing to the formation of two main stems during the rains when growth is prolific ; subsequently these stems tax the resources of the plant and when growth slows down, the production of the fruit absorbs all available nutriment and retards the formation of suckers for the following crop.

In order to arrange and maintain rotation cropping, pruning of one of the main stems should be attended to in the early stages.

Work on pruning of the variety Gros Michel grown commercially on a large scale has shown that in good soil with a rainfall of above 70 inches yearly, the plant grown from a section produces a leading stem which fruits in twelve to fourteen months ; this, together with a large sucker ("sword") about nine months old—a medium sucker ("maiden") of three months and two developing buds at the foot provide a good rotation, with slight variations according to position and soil fertility.

Coffee.

The coffee plots of *C. robusta* and *C. excelsa* planted in 1917 have flowered profusely and are now carrying good crops of young berries ; although flowering has occurred annually this is the first time fruit has been carried, it is probable that pollination was defective ; records of the yield are being kept.

Cotton.

The relatively stable market prices for cotton have encouraged a few estate owners to lay out annually small areas in good Sea Island Cotton, at first as an economic experiment, latterly—the results having been favourable there is some intention of extending this crop in what was formerly a good cotton district.

The resources of the Department have been throughout available and seed has been received from the estates for the planting plots of cotton in order to select the best forms and to supply clean seed free from insect pests ; the plots were planted in October and were well advanced at the close of the year.

In order to protect and foster cotton development it will be necessary to introduce a close season during which no cotton plant is allowed to exist.

Camphor.

Seeds of *Cinnamomum camphora* Nees. introduced from two sources practically all failed to germinate although treated in different ways ; in order to provide plants of this economic tree various methods of reproduction have been resorted to in propagating from the established trees but with little success, root cuttings promise the best results.

Researches at the Imperial Institute of Science, South Kensington on various forms of commercial camphor-bearing trees including samples from the Federated Malay States, British East Africa and Trinidad resulted in an inquiry from the Director for samples of the local type in which interest had been evinced. Samples of leaves and twigs at different stages of maturity were carefully prepared and dispatched to the Director of the Institute at the end of the year.

The promised report on these samples should be interesting in determining whether these trees yield commercial wax or oil, the former only is at present worth commercial exploitation realising about 2/6 per pound of crude wax (London). A ton of air-dried camphor prunings may yield from forty to sixty pounds of crude Camphor wax (1).

Citrus Plots.

The varieties of citrus grown at the Experiment Station have been kept in good condition and continue to flower and fruit regularly the fruit being disposed of locally. The plots exist primarily to supply budwood for budding sour orange stock and to demonstrate treatment and care of the best varieties of oranges, grapefruits, lemons and citrons. The species and varieties cultivated are in order of popularity :—

Orange—Washington Navel, Whittaker, Portugal, Pineapple, Union Sweet. Homosassa and Tangerine,
Grapefruit—Pernambuco, Manvilles Improved, Jamaica and Seedless,
Lemon—Villa Franca, and
Citron.

Some difficulty has been experienced locally in growing the budded citrus received from Reunion owing to the development of sour orange suckers arising from the stock, and it should be remembered that this is always liable to happen on budded plants particularly on weak varieties or in dry weather.

The development is due to the plants suffering from a check in growth or unsuitable cultivation with the consequent withdrawal of the food supply, this retards the most susceptible part of the plant *i.e.* the bud, whilst the more vigorous stock continues to grow strong basal suckers which progressively weaken the budded portion.

Proper after-care is necessary in growing on budded plants and should consist of good cultivation and manuring with the removal of basal shoots which tend to develop, by rubbing these off as they arise from the stock.

Alfalfa.

The varieties of Alfalfa (*Medicago sativa* L.) Medanos and Saviniza have withstood extremes of drought and flood fairly well although some losses have occurred, the plants revive readily in favourable weather and flower and seed freely ; there is little doubt that these useful stock food plants would thrive on estates with a somewhat higher rainfall. Lime in some form is necessary for good growth and wood-wash has given good results.

No crop weights are given as in addition to the above misadventures cattle invaded the plot and eagerly grazed off the best plants.

At the request of the Commissioner samples of nodulated soil and of seed were forwarded to the Imperial Department of Agriculture.

(1) Bull. Imp. Inst. XXIII. 4· 1925.

Seeds and plants of these varieties can be obtained for planting (with inoculated soil) during favourable weather. seed should be sown immediately as it readily germinates in a humid atmosphere.

Alfalfa "Grim" a new large hardy variety has been introduced from the United States and is making excellent progress. this variety is stated to give five to seven tons of dried fodder per acre at each reaping, there being three reapings a year.

Seeds of three clovers—Red Clover (*Trifolium pratense* L.) Pea vine Clover (*T. pratense perinne*) and Dutch or White Clover (*T repens* L.) have also been introduced. Germination was good and inoculation of the soil has been successful in promoting nodule formation ; the plants are making good progress and are flowering at the time of writing.

Apart from the clovers provided valuable cattle food there is the possibility of adapting a good strain for use in fallowing cane land instead of the coarse weeds and grasses that occupy such land at present, the clovers would hardly become weeds and would not provide hosts for cane pests as do members of the grass family—Graminæ.

FOREST CONSERVATION.

Attention is drawn to the annual destruction of forest trees and bushes by fires started on small holdings.

The fires are commenced in most cases by small proprietors for the purpose of economically removing bush on their land preparatory to planting cassava and ground provisions ; this, although permissiable is bad practice owing to the entire destruction of humus and beneficial bacteria on land that can ill afford such loss—subsequently the impoverished soil yields but small returns and is abandoned ; a further area is then leased and treated similarly ; this migratory and destructive method of cultivation adds considerably to the area of land regarded as unprofitable in St. Lucia. Frequently these fires get out of control and invade the Crown Lands destroying all vegetable matter in their path until they die out, they are seldom extinguished by hand.

In addition to the fact that the market value of fired-over land is considerably depreciated, accidental burning involving the destruction of "any tree, root or plant" comes within the meaning of an offence under Forest Conservancy—Section 4 of the regulations governing Crown Lands—for which a penalty not exceeding ten pounds may be imposed on conviction.

The value of exported forest products for the year was £5,247 as against £6,708 for the previous year, not including a large value of locally consumed forest products ; in the interest of forest conservancy a proportion of this revenue could wisely be used for an active afforestation policy.

GENERAL REMARKS ON THE EXPERIMENT STATION.

The cane varietal plots established in the upper part of the Station have done well although much work has been necessary in eradicating the pernicious Para grass *Panicum muticum* Forsk. which had commenced to overrun this area ; in the vacant places Pigeon peas and Horse beans have been used as weed preventers and soil fertilisers.

The wind-breaks formed by Casuarina, Gliricidia and other hardy trees now well established are proving serviceable, the coconuts planted here have made good progress and assist in reducing wind pressure.

Supply plots of Cassava "Blue Top," sweet potatoes and tobacco have been grown for distribution of plants, cuttings and seeds particularly to small proprietors.

In conformation with the policy of reducing the area of common cane formerly used in making syrup for sale, the common cane plot has been replaced by tobacco, pineapples and cotton experimental plots, there is therefore no cane crop to report on.

The sugar factory and mill are now used for dealing with the crop from small cane farmers locally at their expense with a proportionate reduction in total proceeds retained as compensation for assistance and the use of the factory ; this continues the policy of encouraging local production.

The Copra drying trays in the Farine house have been dismantled and adapted for recording the crops of the common and spineless limes.

CONTROL OF INSECT PESTS.

No serious outbreak of insect pests occurred during the year, while the minor infestations observed or recorded are as follows :—

Coconuts.—Attacks of Scale insects and White Fly were generally less severe than usual ; it is probable that these pests were more successfully controlled by entomogenous fungi owing to the humid conditions which prevailed throughout the year.

The Striped weevil borer (*Metasmasius sericeus* Oliv.) noted in the Annual Report for 1924 as attacking coconut palms has also been found in banana stools (var. : Gros Michel) in company with the true banana weevil (*Cosmopolites sordidus* Germ.) ; Professor Ballou, Entomologist to the Imperial Department of Agriculture states that the striped weevil probably attacks many soft-tissued plants when these are injured ; the above case appears somewhat original in that the weevil was actively engaged in the primary destruction of the palm tissue.

Bananas.

The method of soaking bull-heads in lime water for forty-eight hours has proved a successful control for banana weevils and the large borers and has been incorporated with the sectioning of bull-heads for planting ; taken together these measures as introduced by the Department form the planting system which is now urged on every banana planter ; its practicability was shown in the large areas planted on this system in which weevil attacks and Panama disease are well under control.

Petty cultivations of mixed varieties and the customary small garden plots of the peasant show far higher infestation with weevil and borer than the large concentration of bananas grown on the estate system.

Many of the peasants hold the belief that the weevil is created spontaneously in the forest and that it is therefore useless to attempt to control this pest. Such an attitude encourages neglect for which the present general financial stringency is advanced as an excuse.

To deal with these cases, tact and forceful persuasion is necessary in order to enlist the help of the small proprietors and to obtain information, and cooperation is essential for effective and economical sanitation. No compensation has so far been recommended for destroyed banana stools.

The two Inspectors appointed to deal with banana diseases and pests have done good service under difficult travelling conditions involving heavy work and with the assistance of the Agricultural Officers these men have dealt with the badly infested areas and have advised small proprietors with regard to general cultural methods.

Limes.

Coccidæ were well controlled generally throughout the year. A bad infestation of the bark borer *Leptostylus praemorsus* a light brown beetle with long slender antennæ was examined on one lime estate ; the limes were old and somewhat neglected as owing to financial stress proper pruning and weeding had not been possible.

It was advised that these matters should be attended to and the soil lightly dug over, an extension of green mulches and drainage was suggested for the general improvement of tilth.

A spineless lime at Reunion Experiment Station was ringed and killed by an attack of this borer.

Sugar-Cane.

Attention was given to cane fields on a large sugar estate where losses had been caused in young canes by mole crickets gnawing away the softer parts of the root system.

As the pest was said to be particularly prevalent in one or two fields then due for replanting it was proposed that the cane-stools should be burnt after reaping in order to destroy the different stages of this insect ; careful selection of cuttings and preservation of birds as a natural control was also advised.

Canes were also found to be attacked by a small oval black beetle about nine millimetres in length, distinct from the typical hard back and of fugitive habits, this insect bored into the roots of young canes and cane cuttings ; in this case also careful selection of cuttings was advised.

Sweet Potatoes.

In several cases the crop of sweet potatoes was found to be badly attacked by the Scarabee (*Cryptorhynca batatae* Waterhouse) causing the roots to become powdery, odorous and unfit for food.

Infestation was bad on land which had been continuously cropped with potatoes for several seasons thus providing food for each succeeding generation.

It was advised that infected sites should be abandoned and careful selection of cuttings be made to form a nursery.

Cultivators of sweet potatoes, particularly small proprietors, should give more attention to selection of cuttings to form nurseries or for immediate planting. Payment or barter amongst the peasants often includes a bundle of sweet potato cuttings for planting, and these if infected may give rise to wide-spread attacks of the Scarabee.

CONTROL OF FUNGUS DISEASES

Bananas.

The appointment of two Banana Inspectors in June, 1925, has resulted in a wide measure of control of Panama disease, at present the only plant disease of serious proportions. The information now available supports the view mentioned in the previous Report and it is now certain that most of the coastal and adjacent estates on the Western side of ths Colony where Gros Michel is grown on a small scale are affected with this disease.

A large number of small planters holdings found to be infected have been dealt with by burning the diseased plants and destroying the contacts ; with one or two exceptions no opposition has been met with in this work and the willing cooperation of the small proprietors has greatly facilitated disease control.

The large estates where bananas are grown intensively have under the system of section planting largely avoided the introduction of diseased material and there is now a much lower percentage of plants infected by Panama disease than there is found with weevil and borer.

On one estate planted with Gros Michel several fields became badly infected with disease ; on inquiry it was found that these fields formerly in cacao had carried scattered clumps of the Gros Michel which according to earlier method (?) of cultivation had been allowed to die out when unproductive probably owing to Panama disease.

At the time of planting with bananas none of these original stools were found, the disease however retained its vitality in the soil and decimated the new plantations as these became established.

The plants have now been burned and the fields replanted with the Short fig or Canary banana.

On adjacent lands where bananas had not been grown Gros Michel sections have been planted and are making good progress, the plants are now fruiting and remain free from disease.

On the Eastern coast there has been in earlier times practically no traffic in bananas and estates there are free from disease ; an estate in the centre of the island reached by a road through the hills has apparently used planting material brought over the ridge from infected Western estates ; estates without such communications have remained free from disease and will provide valuable banana lands when developed.

The considerable experience gained in the ecology and control of Panama disease all goes to prove that the essentials in banana planting in St. Lucia are—the use of healthy planting sections—planted on land free from disease, to secure these both plants and land must be examined.

One case of Panama disease was found on Fig Rouge or Red banana.

Sugar-Cane.

Some extension of root disease *Marasmius sacchari* Wakker, on the roots of ratoon canes appeared to be encouraged by a partial exhaustion of the soil due to continuous ratooning.

Early reaping of the crop in the infected area with subsequent liming and fallowing of the land was advised as treatment ; Uba cane, the most highly resistant variety in the West Indies was advisod for future planting.

Ring spot of cane, *Leptosphaeria sacchari* Br. d.H., usually accompanied by red spot of the leaf sheath *Cercospora vaginae* K. was conspicuous on old canes at one estate : this disease usually confined to mature leaves is encouraged by wet weather ; the leaves developed numerous irregular spots of reddish brown colour which later formed brown blotches with a reddish border : it was advised that affected stools should be reaped and not used as cuttings.

Gumming disease of cane was found by Professor Ashby, (late Mycologist to the Imperial Department of Agriculture) on two estates in St. Lucia at the end of the year.

The disease is characterised by long pale yellow streaks on the leaves, generally the third or fourth leaf outwards from the bud.

Reddish dots and lines develop in the streaks which die back and form long grey-brown stripes which subsequently split up.

In St. Lucia few of the streaked leaves show red spots or lines, the yellow streak is strongly developed and is sometimes accompanied by a red colouring of the midrib, faint red spots sometimes appear in the vascular bundles when cut across at the node ; no gumming of cut canes has been observed.

The disease is caused by a micro-organism *Bacterium vascularum* (Cobb.) E.F.S., which causes stunting and dwarfing of the stool with a serious reduction in tonnage per acre ; the disease is extended by using infected cuttings and probably transmitted by cutlasses and reaping knives.

The disease may be restricted by sterilising the cutting tools in fire or disinfectant and by the use of healthy cuttings ; it has also been advised that infected fields should be reaped as early as possible, no canes or cane tops are allowed to be planted elsewhere.

Susceptible varieties such as Bourbon, BA 6032, Sealy Seedling, B 11569 and B 147 should be replaced by BH 10 (12), D 116 and other varieties found resistant.

Limes.

No dangerous disease has so far appeared and lime plantations generally have improved in condition and cropping power owing to more attention being given on account of high prices for lime oils, conditions of die-back are less prevalent.

Cacao.

Pod rots caused by Phytophthora and Diplodia were somewhat extensive in estates of high rainfall during August and September following a period of high humidity.

Warning notices were circulated in advance advising planters to collect and burn diseased pods and branches and to dust the trees with lime-sulphur powder.

Cacao planters should give renewed attention to cacao in order to prevent the spread of Rosellinia from present diseased trees.

Coconuts.

A number of cases of budrot of coconuts reported from an estate which suffers small losses annually were examined.

A thorough inspection was made of the groves, and nuts were examined from all trees showing abnormality, such as early shedding of nuts, union of the leaf pinnae and dwarfing of the young leaves ; trees thus affected were in most cases producing diseased nuts.

It was advised that a clearing gang should remove and burn the affected trees, nuts, and leaves, that drainage and mulching should be extended, and all seed nuts for forming the nursery should be carefully selected.

PLANT QUARANTINE.

The Plants Protection Ordinance requires that all imported seeds, plants and planting material of any kind must be delivered to the Agricultural Department upon arrival, for treatment.

A total of 50 large and small consignments of plants, cuttings and seeds was treated in the Fumigatorium with corrosive sublimate for fungus diseases, carbon bisulphide and hydrocyanic gas for insects generally and oil emulsion for sucking insects ; some consignments were kept under observation at the Station.

Proclamations in Force under the Ordinance.

The Government may prohibit the importation of any planting material which may be the means of introducing a dangerous disease or pest.

The following prohibitions are in force :—

Coconuts.

(1) Coconuts, coconut plants or any part thereof from all places, except under licence.

BANANAS.

(2) Banana plants or any parts thereof that may have come directly or indirectly from Trinidad, Tobago, Grenada, Central and South America.

CACAO.

(3) Cacao plants from South America.

CITRUS (ORANGE, GRAPE-FRUIT, LIMES, ETC.)

(4) All Citrus plants from the United States of America, Cuba, Porto Rico, Jamaica, Hayti, or San Domingo.

(5) All Citrus plants from British Guiana, Trinidad, Dominica and Greater Antilles.

(6) Citrus, Coffee, Mango, Guava, Sapodilla, and Star Apple plants from Bahama Islands, Ceylon, Cuba, India Jamaica and Phillipine Islands.

(7) No rooted plants in earth may be imported from any of the places mentioned in (4) and (6) unless they are accompanied by a certificate from the proper authority in the country in question certifying that citrus canker does not exist, and has not existed within two years in the district from whence the plants are exported.

Importers should instruct the exporting firm to forward the necessary certificate in advance of the plants.

COTTON.

(8) Cotton seed and all parts of the cotton plant are entirely prohibited except under licence, and subject to heat or fumigation treatment.

SUGAR-CANE, ETC.

(9) Sugar-cane plants, grasses, sweet corn and sorghum or any parts or fodders that may have come directly or indirectly from any place beyond the limits of this Colony.

This includes all grass-like plants viz :—Sugar-cane, sorghum, corn, guinea grass, millet, maize, oats, barley, rye, rice, Job's tears, bamboo, &c.

Exportation of Plant Material.

Exporters intending to ship plants, seeds, fruits, etc., overseas should communicate with the Agricultural Superintendent in order to obtain information on Quarantines in overseas ports, and avoid the possibility of confiscation or the refusal to accept goods in shipment when these are prohibited or are not accompanied by the necessary certificate of freedom from disease and place of origin.

DISEASES AND PESTS WITHIN THE COLONY.

Under the Ordinance the existence of diseases and pests must be notified to the Agricultural Department or to an Inspector or Police Officer for transmission to the Agricultural Superintendent.

Under the Plants Protection Ordinance, Panama disease, Marasmius, Banana Weevil and Borer are declared diseases and pests respectively ; Agricultural Officers may enforce sanitary measures for the control of diseases and pests ; treatment was carried out on the following cases.

COCONUTS.

Some cases of Budrot and Little-leaf disease were treated by burning.

BANANAS.

Under this head the control of Banana Weevil and Borer and Panama disease has been effected with the assistance of the two Banana Inspectors.

IMPORTATION OF BEES.

Under Ordinance No. 18 the importation of any queen bee or other bees, bee-hives or parts thereof is prohibited except when accompanied by a certificate approved by the Agricultural Superintendent to the effect that Foul Brood has not existed in the apiary or in connexion therewith.

A consignment of imported bees was inspected and delivered.

ANIMAL QUARANTINE.

Under Ordinance No. 17 the Governor in Council may prohibit the importation of any animal, carcase, fodder or litter which may be the means of introducing disease.

Under this Ordinance the importation of animals, fodder or litter from the United Kingdom, Isle of man and Channel Islands is prohibited.

IDENTIFICATION AND ANALYSIS.

Examination was made on a number of specimens and samples submitted during the year consisting mainly of plants, fibres, tobacco leaves, concentrated lime juice, bay oils, insect and fungus pests.

Analysis was also made of—(a) Castor cake and oils.
(b) Coconut cakes and oils.
(c) River water.
(d) Raw lime juice.
(e) Soufrière hot springs deposits.

(a) and (b) Castor and Coconut cakes were examined to determine the efficiency of oil extraction, the castor cake consisted of—

	Per cent.
Water	1·11
Oil	6·80
Residue after ether extraction ..	92·09

(c) Samples of river water used for manufacturing purposes were examined for hardness :—

No. 1. Alkalinity equal to 16·52 parts $CaCO_3$ per 100,000 parts.
No. 2. „ „ 17·74 „ „ „ „
No. 3. „ „ 15·90 „ „ „ „

(d) Raw lime juice was examined to determine the cause of discolouration when exported—discolouration appeared to be due to the use of iron rollers with water containing sulphates and the subsequent action of heat ; the selection of limes and general manufacture of the raw lime juice was in this case conducted with great care and precision.

(e) A report was made on the commercial value of deposits occurring around the sulphur springs at the "Soufrière" :—

> "Sulphur, Aluminium hydroxide with ferric oxide and silica are found around the crater, the amounts are too small to warrant exploitation."

Favourable reports have been received on the improvement in tilth brought about by using the shell-bearing sands found at Vieux-Fort (Annual Report, 1924, page 13).

PROGRESS IN THE CHIEF INDUSTRIES.

SUGAR.

The price of sugar fell steadily during the year from £36 per ton for best West India crystals in January to £25 10*s*. per ton in December, 1925, the average price received being £30 10*s*. as against £46 per ton for the crop in 1924.

This decline in value of Sugar Products has been discouraging to the Sugar Factories and to the small cane farmers who make Fancy Molasses.

The output of factory sugar for refining was much higher than it has been for some years, an increase being shown of one thousand three hundred tons for the crop 1925 ; there was a reduction in low sugars and molasses and syrup production.

Local and weather conditions enabled a good crop to be made, the amounts and value of the exported products are shown below for 1924 and 1925:—

	1924.	Value. £	1925.	Value. £
Usine Sugar (tons) ...	3,588	87,987	4,888	72,559
Muscovado Sugar (tons) ...	497	9,508	430	4,774
Molasses & Syrup (gallons) ...	159,859	12,323	153,413	7,818
		£109,818		£85,151

The area in sugar remains at about 4,750 acres.

Increased attention has been given to the improvement of factory plant and methods of production enabling a better recovery of sugar for the tonnage of cane handled ; in regard to the sugar industry generally it is hoped that recent negotiations with Canada and improved trading facilities will place this industry on a firm footing.

Prices during the early part of the present year have shown a slight improvement.

RUM.

There has been a slight increase in the amount of rum manufactured locally, overseas prices have however been discouraging and no rum was exported ; the production at the local distilleries was,

in 1924 ... 39,081·0 proof gallons.
in 1925 ... 45,762·2 ,, ,,

CACAO.

The Cacao market has provided a workable price throughout the year, about 65/- per cwt. for best cacao ; had more attention to plantations been possible during the previous period of low prices (from January to August 1924) producers would now be in a position to profit by the present prices ; expenditure on cultivation was in most cases reduced and this together with wet weather has restricted the crop for 1925 as given below :—

1924 ... 12,163 Cwts. valued at £21,267
1925 ... 10,443 ,, ,, ,, 22,339

cultivation has not been extended and the area in cacao remains at about 6,000 acres.

LIMES.

In contrast to the preceding industries the lime industry has had an encouraging year which has placed production on a firm footing, the cultivations have received increased attention and have been considerably extended ; the crop developed gradually and was readily collected.

The Concentrated Lime Juice market improved from £18 to £21 per pipe ; Raw Lime Juice remained stationary at 2/- to 2/6 per gallon but some extensive contracts were made by local growers and a high grade product was exported.

There was a moderate trade in green Limes to the United States during the period February—June.

Excellent prices were received during the year for Otto of Limes and Distilled Lime Oil, the former rose from 11/- to 22/6 per lb. at the close of the year, the latter from 6/0 in January rose to 9/6 per lb. in December ; owing to a general shortage these prices have since been greatly improved upon. The total exported crop calculated in barrels of fruit was 63,406 barrels as against 52,238 barrels in 1924, the actual production is shown under " Exports " in which exported Lime Seeds form a new item.

The recent development of an additional 100 acres in Lime cultivation brings the area to a total of about 2,650 acres.

COCONUTS.

The Coconut groves have again proved a safe investment, the average price throughout the year being above £30 per ton for Copra ; a considerable amount of the crop is now cured by the heated flue system, this has prevented loss of time and crop during wet weather.

The groves have been extended and now cover about 2,700 acres.

A much larger proportion of the crop has been handled by the local Oil Mills ; in addition to local consumption there was a considerable increase in exports shown below as against the crop for 1924 :—

	1924.		£	1925.	£
Coconuts (Number) ...	119,669	Value	204	123,516	432
Coconut Oil (Gallons) ...	1,081	,,	162	6,323	791
Copra (Lb.)	202,304	,,	2,199	221,944	3,563
Coconut Meal (Lb.) ...	3,720	,,	5	28,917	106

PROGRESS IN MINOR INDUSTRIES.

BAY OIL AND BAY RUM.

The Bay Oil Factories have maintained good production now mainly in the finished product—Bay Rum, this is an excellent article and is meeting with increased appreciation ; the exported amounts were : —

In 1924	...	4,295 pounds of Bay Oil	valued at	£1,429
In 1925	...	2,313 „ „	„	786
In 1924	...	13,230 gallons of Bay Rum	„	2,498
In 1925	...	17,467 „ „	„	3,249

COTTON.

A small crop only of best Sea Island Cotton was made, this however was more than double value owing to the marked advance in prices and the improved product.

More attention is being given to cultivation of Sea Island Cotton.

BEE-KEEPING.

A good harvest of Honey and Wax was made during the year but slightly below that for the previous season, much Honey has been used locally ; the exported amounts were : —

In 1924	...	44,570 lb. of Honey	value £399 ;	483 lb. Wax	value £14
In 1925	...	43,862 „ „	„ £463 ;	426 „	„ £23

The apiaries have been improved by the introduction of Italian Queen bees ; this minor industry is receiving increased attention.

BANANA CULTIVATION.

This industry in the face of some difficulty has now become sufficiently well established to be classed as a minor industry.

A total of about 900 acres is now planted in Bananas and a large proportion of these are fruiting, under the present system the bunches being shipped to Barbados or other islands by sloop ; according to published information fruit steamers are being constructed and should call here about March, 1927.

The original promoters of the Banana Export Industry now registered as a company propose to develop in addition to the planted area a considerable extent of Crown lands for Banana production.

In view of the progress already made several large estate owners have planted suitable land in Bananas, these also show good prospects ; other estates will probably be developed on similar lines and generally much more optimism is shown in this industry ; as pointed out under the foregoing notes on Bananas (Notes on Plots ; Control of Insect Pests ; Control of Fungus diseases) such confidence should be based on the planting method which has proved a success with the original promoters, with whom the Department has been in active cooperation throughout.

Accordingly, the total export of Bananas mainly Gros Michel has largely increased—

In 1924 the number of exported bunches	was	4,190	valued at £256.
In 1925 „ „	,	20,818	„ £1,374.

Conducted on right lines with suitable shipping facilities this development should soon form a chief industry.

OIL MILLS.

Oil extraction by the local Oil Mills has also been developed and now forms a minor industry capable of considerable development.

There was a large advance in the amount handled during the year, prices for oil have been fair and a considerable trade is being developed in oil meal sales intercolonially. the amounts exported were : —

In 1924	3,720 lb. Oil Meal and	1,081 gallons	Coconut Oil	valued at	£167.
In 1925	28,917 „ „	6,323 „	„	„	£887.

Owing to the difficulty experienced in obtaining large supplies of castor seed for oil expression and losses consequent on adjustments necessary when dealing with both Castor seed and Copra alternately. the mills have been finally adapted for dealing with Copra only ; this has proved beneficial to both copra production and oil and cake manufacture,

In the attached lists of Exports from St. Lucia a marked increase is noted in fruit production and also in ground provisions generally, a considerable proportion of this increase is due to the activity of small proprietors.

Agricultural output generally has increased but owing to the low prices for Sugar products the agricultural income shows a considerable reduction on that for the previous year ; a hopeful sign is the considerable initiative and confidence shown in the new industries and in established plantations and the readiness of planters generally to carry out improvements and extensions.

Such a progressive agricultural policy establishes St. Lucia as a definitely agricultural community.

EXPORTS FROM ST. LUCIA.

		1924	Value £	1925		Value £
Sugar Products :—						
Sugar, Vacuum Pan	Tons	3,588	87,987	Tons	4,888	72,559
,, Muscovado	,,	497	9,508	,,	430	4,774
Molasses and Syrup	Gall.	159.589	12,323	Gall.	153,413	7,818
Rum	p. Gls.	96	29		...	...
Cacao Products :—						
Cacao	Lb.	1,362,336	21,267	Lb.	1,169,697	22,339
Lime Products :—						
Concentrated Lime Juice	Gall.	33,718	7,204	Gall.	40,858	9,988
Raw Juice	,,	8,490	589	,,	23,428	1,070
Distilled Lime Oil	,,	308	762	,,	982	2,606
Essential H.P. Otto of Limes	,,	1,037	1.578	,,	500	2,440
Green Limes	Barrels	2,857	2,849	Barrels	1,691	1,625
Lime Seeds	...	...	...	Lb.	34,091	116
Coconut Products :—						
Coconuts	Number	119,669	204	Number	123,516	432
Copra	Lb.	202,204	2,199	Lb.	221,944	3,563
Coconut-meal	,,	3,720	5	,,	28,917	106
Coconut Oil	Gall.	1,081	162	Gall.	6.323	791
Honey Products :—						
Honey	Lb.	44,570	399	Lb.	43,862	463
Beeswax	,,	483	14	,,	426	23
Cotton Products :—						
Sea Island lint	,,	1,537	70	,,	662	77
Cotton Seed	...	...	...		...	...
Bay Products :—						
Bay Oil (9lb. per gall.)	Lb.	4,295	1,429	Gall.	257	786
Bay Rum	Gall.	13,230	2,498	,,	17,467	3.249
Banana Products :—						
Bananas	Bunches	4,190	256	Bunches	20,818	1,374
Spices :—						
Cinnamon	Lb.	105	1		...	...
Ginger	,,	45	1	Lb.	107	2
Nutmegs	,,	8,170	77	,,	9,588	494
Mace	,,	1,133	104	,,	2,068	190
Vanilla	...	...	...		...	...
Kola Nuts	,,	2,554	30	,,	13,185	81
Various Products :—						
Oranges	Number	22,185	24	Number	141,490	177
Mangoes	,,	...	1,304		...	1,157
Hides &	...	...	...	,,	1,105	398
Skins	,,	455	50	,,	456	27
Plantains	Bunches	16	3	Bunches	113	12
Arrowroot	...	...	...		...	..
Farine	Lb.	676	7	Lb.	8,622	60
Yams	...	...	5		...	...
Fish Oil	Gall.	892	41	Gall.	54	27

EXPORTS—(*Contd.*)

Forest Products :—		1924	Value £		1925	Value £
Logwood ...	... Tons	1,293	3.916	Tons	779	2,304
Piment Sticks	C. Ft.	805	87	C Ft.	...	..
Firewood ...	... ,,	238,750	924	Cords	1,570	810
Railway Sleepers	...	...	55	C. Ft.	200	20
Brooms (made from palm leaves)	.. Doz.	1,388	...	Doz.	753	38
Posts ...	... C. Ft.	1,317	90	C. Ft.	546	17
Cedar ...	... ,,	140	15	,,	3½	1
Boards (native)	... ,,	1,205	82	,,	299	32
Hoe Sticks ...	... ,,	365	9	,,	142	15
Spokes ...	.. ,,	323	36	,,	692	75
Charcoal ...	... Lb.	1,157,370	1,407	Bags.	29.189	1,930
Felloes ...	... C. Ft.	94	18	C. Ft.	23	2
Naves ...	... ,,	38	3		...	...
Shingles ...	... Number	2,900	2	Number	6,000	3

AGRICULTURAL INSTRUCTION IN THE PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

Report of the Agricultural Superintendent on the Teaching of Agriculture in the Primary Schools of St. Lucia during 1925.

The seventeenth annual examination of Primary Schools was conducted by the Agricultural Officer between November 10th, and December 11th, 1925.

The same number of schools, viz : seventeen was examined as last year, the results on the whole showed an improvement on last year's work.

The number of pupils examined was 334 representing about 86 per cent. of the children taught agriculture.

Girls were included in the agricultural classes of a few schools- this is a useful extension particularly in those districts where girls on leaving school make agriculture their vocation.

Cultivation of varieties of Bananas forms an important part of the practical work in several schools, every school should establish a plot of the varieties grown locally.

Manuring of the school gardens should be more general ; propagation generally is becoming really satisfactory.

Attention is directed to the lack of descriptive power shown by the agricultural classes ; this could be considerably developed by arranging a fortnightly excursion of an hour in order to visit and study a particular plant or crop not necessarilly in the school garden ; the class should, on return to the school write down their individual observations spontaneously.

The method of teaching general agriculture particularly composition, should consist of the sequence system where the different operations are drawn out under subheads in order of progression, viz :—

(1) Preparation of the land ;
(2) Sowing ;
(3) After-cultivation and development of the crop ;
(4) Reaping and disposal of the crop ;—

the adoption of this method would also improve the theoretical knowledge.

I regret that the Mon Repos School Garden is being neglected, a serious effort should be made by the Head Master to improve the general conditions of the garden before next examination.

A note of appreciation is due the Riviere Doree School Garden. Taking its difficulties into consideration this School Garden has made the most creditable display throughout the year.

EXAMINER'S REPORT

Castries Anglican Juvinile.

This school garden was cropped throughout the year with a variety of English and local vegetables cultivated in a most creditable manner; the practical work includ d propagation of economic plants by grafting, budding and circumposition, both boys and girls took a keen interest in the work. The theoretical knowledge was good.

Castries R.C. Boys'.

This garden is small but continuous use was made of it so that the practical work was quite sufficient to demonstrate the work done in class. Useful manurial experiments have been carried out with interesting results. The theoretical knowledge was good.

Castries Wesleyan.

This also is a small garden but the demonstrations and experiments are arranged in a manner to fully illustrate the class work. Budding and grafting form an important part of the practical work here. The theoretical work was good.

Babonneau R.C. Juvenile.

This is comparatively speaking a new garden but much useful work has been done. The district is purely an agricultural one and the experiments carried out in the school garden should be useful to the children at home. Girls are included in the agricultural class and show a great deal of interest in the work generally. The ornamental section was much mixed up with the economic section, this can be easily remedied as a large area of land is available.

Forestiere Wesleyan.

The soil of this school garden requires liberal applications of stable manure or green dressing to improve the texture. The plots were cropped with a variety of useful plants such as onions, garlic, cassava, potatoes and yams but more simple experiments should be arranged; grafting and budding of economic plants should form a part of the practical demonstrations. The theoretical knowledge was only fair.

Anse-la-Raye R.C. Juvenile.

Creditable work is being done here, the garden is well laid out and continuously cropped with English vegetables, besides these, plots of sugar cane and bananas are grown as object lessons to the boys. Budding, grafting and propagation by circumposition form an important part of the practical work: the theoretical knowledge was good.

Canaries R.C. Juvenile.

Marked improvement was noted in the work of this school garden. A piece of land given to the school for garden purposes by Mr. A. R. C. Mallet is much more suitable than the old garden. It was cropped with a variety of useful vegetables and the boys seemed more interested in agricultural work than formerly. The experimental work was well arranged, the theoretical knowledge requires improvement.

Soufriere R.C. Boys

The soil in this garden is sandy and consequently light and in order to carry good crops the physical texture must be improved by liberal applications of pen manure, green dressings or compost soil.

The experiments were well arranged and the theoretical knowledge was good. Budding and grafting form a part of the practical demonstrations, which should be encouraged and extended

Choiseul R.C. Boys.

This garden has been maintained in good condition throughout the year, but requires liberal applications of stable manure or green dressings as the soil is poor.

Propagation of economic plants by circumposition, grafting and budding has been included in the practical work but the theoretical knowledge requires more attention.

Riviere Doree Juvenile.

The improvements mentioned in last year's report have been maintained. The garden was cropped with plots of cassava, yams, cabbage, lettuce and other useful vegetables, simple experiments were arranged in connection with the various crops. Budding and grafting of economic plants is being done on a large scale. There is room for improvement in the theoretical work.

Laborie R. C. Boys.

Useful work is being done here. Experiments with native vegetables have received proper attention and green dressings have improved the texture of the soil. Grafting of economic plants has been successfully carried out but budding requires more attention. The theoretical knowledge was good.

Saltibus R. C. Juvenile.

This is a large school garden but the soil is exhausted and unless pen manure is liberally applied useful work cannot be achieved. Simple manurial experiments should be carried out as these will not only improve the condition of the garden but should in addition give interesting results.

VIEUX-FORT R. C. BOYS.

This garden is wind swept and must be protected by an efficient hedge. The present hedge should be supplied and manured as the weather permits.—Pigeon peas could be grown with advantage along the middle of the garden to help as wind-breaks and the plots should be covered with green dressings throughout the dry season.

The garden was well cropped and a plot of Sea Island cotton grown in a sheltered corner of the garden was giving excellent results More simple experiments should be arranged to make the work interesting.

MICOUD R. C. JUVENILE.

The soil of this garden is very sandy but has received considerable quantities of pen manure and green dressings thus enabling it to support crops in a creditable manner. The experimental work is interesting and should continue to form a large part of the practical demonstration. Propagating economic plants by grafting, circumposition and other methods has been done but budding requires more attention. The theoretical knowledge was good.

MON REPOS R. C. JUVENILE.

Theoretical knowledge was fair but the arrangement of the practical demonstrations was faulty. The condition of the garden showed neglect. The beds should be manured, thoroughly cultivated and reformed before any more planting is attempted. Budding, grafting and simple experiments with native crops should form a part of the practical demonstrations.

DENNERY R. C. BOYS.

There is still a deficiency of humus in the soil of this school garden and this should be supplied by liberal applications of green dressings or pen manure.

The theoretical knowledge was good but there is room for improvement in the practical demonstrations particularly in regard to the arrangement of simple experiments with the crops grown.

RESSOURCE R. C. JUVENILE.

The improvement mentioned in the last report has been maintained. The plots were cropped with a variety of useful plants, budding of oranges and grafting of mango plants on a fairly large scale has been successfully carried out. Green manuring or a heavy dressing of pen manure is necessary to improve the texture of this garden.

Lists of Marks and Standing of Schools in Agricultural Teaching.

Schools.	No. of Pupils examined.	Condition and use made of Garden.	Practical Work and Knowledge.	Theoretical Knowledge.	Total.	Percentage.	Result Note.
Possible Marks	—	10	10	10	30	100	—
Castries Anglican Juvenile	41	10	10	9	29	96·6	E.
Castries R.C. Boys'	48	9	9	10	28	93 3	E.
Castries Wesleyan	21	9	8	10	27	90	E.
Micoud R.C. Juvenile	10	9	9	9	27	90	E.
Rivière Dorée Anglican	14	10	9	8	27	90	E.
Laborie R.C. Boys'	19	8	8	9	25	83·3	V.G.
Anse-la-Raye R.C. Juvenile	10	8	9	8	25	83·3	V.G.
Dennery R.C. Boys'	23	9	6	9	24	80	V G.
Soufrière R.C. Boys'	45	8	7	9	24	80	V.G.
Vieux-Fort R.C. Boys'	25	7	7	9	23	76·6	V.G.
Choiseul R.C. Boys'	18	8	8	7	23	76·6	V.G.
La Ressource (a)	9	8	9	6	23	76·6	V.G.
Canaries R.C. Juvenile	4	8	8	7	23	76·6	V.G.
Babonneau R.C. Juvenile (b)	16	8	8	7	23	76·6	V.G.
Forestiere Weslevan (c)	5	8	7	7	22	73·3	G.
Saltibus R.C. Juvenile	13	7	7	7	21	70	G.
Mon Repos R.C. Juvenile	13	6	5	6	17	56·6	G.
	334						

(a) Including 4 girls.
(b) „ 10 „
(c) „ 2 „

R. W. NILES, *Examiner.*
February 13, 1926.

EXAMINATION OF TEACHERS IN AGRICULTURE.

The annual examination in Agriculture of Probationers and Pupil Teachers was conducted by the Agricultural Department during the year. The questions were set and the answers were corrected and marked by the Agricultural Officer who reported as follows :—

"Seventy-two per cent. of the candidates who presented themselves for examination obtained more than half marks, the questions were well answered by the first, second and third year Pupil Teachers, but the answers sent in by the Probationers were very poor, only twenty-eight per cent. of this class obtained half marks and over."

In commenting on this report I am of the opinion that the Pupil Teachers suffer from lack of descriptive English, many of their essays after showing a working knowledge of the subject up to a point conclude abruptly with the words "and so forth" thus evading a logical conclusion to the subject under review ; generally, descriptive matter is scanty although the practical work shows a good knowledge of the subject ; there should also be better sequence in the operations described.

The schedule of marks awarded is attached.

PUPIL TEACHERS' EXAMINATION, YEAR 1925.

Agriculture.

Name.	School.	Max. Marks 100
Probationers.		
Lawrence Lesmond	Dennery Boys' School	53
Constantine Emanuel	Choiseul Boys' Juvenile	50
John Alexander	Saltibus Juvenile	44
Leon Lesmond	Dennery Boys'	44
Harold Gajadhar	Forestiere Wesleyan	43
Felicien Fontenelle	Vieux-Fort Boys'	33
Eddius Henry	,,	13
First Year.		
Henry Cotter	Laborie Boys' Juvenile	73
Vitalis Tobie	Dennery Boys'	69
Boniface Placide	Laborie Boys' Juvenile	68
Thomas Rismay	Riviere Dorée Anglican Juvenile	60
Anthony Pelius	La Ressource Combined	58
Joseph Alphonse	Canaries Juvenile	57
Charles Lamontagne	Soufrière Boys' Juvenile	51
Ignatius Chubb	Castries R.C. Juvenile	50
A. Faucher	Choiseul Boys' Juvenile	39
Second Year.		
Jn. Baptiste Frederick	Canaries Juvenile	65
Percival Alphonse	Laborie Boys' Juvenile	54
Martineau Nelson	Castries R C. Juvenile	53
G. S. Skeete	Riviere Dorée Anglican Juvenile	50
William J. Beaulieu	Soufrière R C. Boys'	50
Romillien A. Jn. Baptiste	Mon Repos Juvenile	45
Third Year.		
Tilbert Cyril	Laborie Boys' Juvenile	55
Charles O. Annibaffa	Dennery Boys'	51
Gabriel Lubin	Micoud Juvenile	50

R. W. NILES,
Examiner.
March 8, 1926.

LECTURES TO TEACHERS.

The annual course of lectures on Agriculture was delivered by the Agricultural Superintendent to the Head Teachers and Assistant Teachers of the Primary Schools during August. the lectures took place in the Anglican Boys' School, Castries, which was kindly loaned for the five days' course ; the subjects taken were :—

Plant reproduction, incluing demonstrations of improved plant propagation ;

Bio-chemistry of the soil, embracing the relations and interaction of the soil population and its physical conditions ;

Animal Parasites, a continuation of Animal Husbandry including the recognition and control of common parasites ;

The Banana,—Cultivation, Improved methods of cultivation ;

The Banana,—Diseases and Pests, including Panama disease and Banana weevil and the methods of controlling these parasites.

The lectures were well demonstrated throughout ; the attendance was excellent and included a number of visitors, preparatory pupils and planters.

LESSONS TO PUPILS OF PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

The Agricultural Officers gave verbal and practical instruction and inspected and advised on the various School Gardens during the year.

AGRICULTURAL WORK AND INSTRUCTION IN THE COUNTRY DISTRICTS.

A large number of visits were made by the Agricultural Officers to large and small estates and peasant gardens during the year, much additional travelling was necessary for the control of Banana diseases and pests and assistance in Banana cultivation.

REPORT ON THE WORKING OF AGRICULTURAL CREDIT SOCIETIES.

In reviewing the transactions of the Agricultural Credit Societies for the year 1925 I find that little effort has been made by the Societies or individual members to repay their loans and dissolve the Societies.

The repayment of loans even by small amounts would be an advance on the present policy of evasion. In the near future individual members will be called upon to refund their loans through the Courts which will involve, for them, additional burdens.

Judgment was obtained against the Dennery Society which resulted in seizure and advertisement of public sale of estates belonging to members. Sale was only averted at the last moment.

The Societies of Gros Islet and Vieux-Fort owed small amounts at the beginning of the year which should have been paid off during the working year 1925 ;—Vieux-Fort Society made an effort and will probably conclude repayment of loans and be dissolved during 1926 ; Gros Islet has made no advance whatever.

Both myself and the Inspector have made strenuous efforts to get the advances paid up with but little success, (see Appendix A) legal action should now determine the existence of these Societies.

The following report of the working of the Societies for the year 1925 is submitted by the Inspector of the Societies, Mr. R. W. Niles, who states that great difficulty is now experienced in getting members to attend meetings to conclude the work of the Societies.

REPORT ON THE WORKING OF AGRICULTURAL CREDIT SOCIETIES IN ST. LUCIA FOR THE YEAR 1925.

I have the honour to submit my tenth report on the working of the Agricultural Credit Societies of St. Lucia during the period January 1st to December 31st, 1925.

Nine Societies existed during the year, eight of these conducted business.

Members of the Castries Good Shepherd Society having repaid their loans and ceased to transact business since 1924 should dissolve the Society ; any monies forming the Reserve Fund should be allotted to a Public Improvement to be determined by the members

The Gros Islet and Vieux-Fort Societies have not paid off their loans as was expected, the six other Societies have made little progress in reducing their debts.

At the beginning of the year the Societies owed the Colonial Bank (now Barclay's Dominion and Overseas Bank) a total sum of £1,075 12 1 of which £113 19 4½ was repaid leaving a balance of £961 12 8½ unpaid on 31. 12. 25.

Legal proceedings have been taken against three Societies and member's properties were seized ; this has had but little effect and members now refuse to attend meetings.

A detailed report on the working of each Society is attached.

DENNERY :—

The number of members was 76. The Society owed the Bank £179 2 8 at the beginning of the year of which £27 4 8½ was repaid leaving a balance £151 17 11½ unpaid

MICOUD :—

This Society now consists of 56 members, collectively they owed the Bank £141 12 9 of which was repaid £16 18 7 during the year leaving a debt of £124 14 2 at the end of the year.

SOUFRIERE :—

This Society consists of 69 members. At the beginning of the year they owed £258 18 10 and repaid of this £11 11 7½ only, leaving a large debt of £247 7 2½ at the close of the year.

CHOISEUL :—

Thirty-four members are included in this Society which owed the Bank £140 10 11 of which was repaid £24 11 5 leaving a balance of £115 19 6 unpaid.

LABORIE :—

This Society included 61 members at the end of the year; they owed £117 8 8 and repaid £12 3 0½ leaving an unpaid balance of £105 5 7½.

VIEUX-FORT :—

This Society consisting of 44 members owed but £24 10 7 at the beginning of the year, of this small sum only £11 19 7 was repaid leaving a debt of £12 11 0.

GROS ISLET :—

This Society consists of 31 members who owed £15 5 2½ on 1. 1. 25; they repaid £1 16 10 only during the year, leaving an unpaid balance of £13 8 4½.

ANSE-LA-RAYE :—

This Society consists of 40 members practically all of whom neglect to repay their loans or even interests.

The Society owed £198 2 4½ of which was repaid £7 13 7 during the year leaving a large debt of £190 8 9½ at the end of the year.

GOOD SHEPHERD :—

This Society owes no money and has transacted no business.

General Remarks.

I made appointments to attend meetings of various Societies but seldom succeeded in getting anyone but the Secretary to attend.

The Trustees should carry out their duties and get their members to repay the advances otherwise the Societies will risk the greater expenditure involved in legal action.

I beg to thank the various Parish Priests and Secretaries of the Societies for their generous assistance in matters pertaining to the working of the Societies.

Appended are :—

A. Statement of loan accounts of the various Societies.

B. Balance Sheets of the Societies reported on by the Public Auditor.

APPENDIX A.

LOAN ACCOUNT.

Name of Society.	Membership.	Amount of Loan 31. 12. 24.	Amount paid during 1925.	Remarks.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Dennery	76	179 2 8	27 4 8½	
Micoud	56	141 12 9	16 18 7	Rate of Interest = 7%.
Soufrière	69	258 18 10	11 11 7½	
Choiseul	34	140 10 11	24 11 5	Loans payable on 31.12.
Laborie	61	117 8 8	12 3 0½	25.
Vieux-Fort	44	24 10 7	11 19 7	Loans due Colonial (now
Anse-la-Raye	40	198 2 4½	7 13 7	Barclay's) Bank, Ltd.
Gros Islet	31	15 5 2½	1 16 10	
Good Shepherd	16	...	...	
	427	1,075 12 1	113 19 4½	

APPENDIX B.

Balance Sheets.

(1) MICOUD AGRICULTURAL CREDIT SOCIETY.

Balance Sheet at 31.12.25.

	Dr. £	s.	d.	Cr. £	s.	d.
Loan Account	3	11	9½			
Working Account	15	19	5½			
Reserve Fund				18	10	0
Cash Account (Dr. Balance)				1	1	3
	£19	11	3	19	11	3

Statement of Revenue and Expenditure.

Revenue.

	£	s.	d.
Loans repaid by members	30	9	10
Interest paid by members	19	12	7
	£50	2	5

Expenditure.

	£	s.	d.
Paid Colonial Bank (Loan Account) ...	33	10	11½
Interest Paid	10	9	5½
Stationery		2	0
Auditor	1	0	0
Secretary	4	10	0
Rent of Office		12	0
	50	4	5

(2) SOUFRIERE AGRICULTURAL CREDIT SOCIETY,

Balance Sheet at 31.12.25.

	Dr. £	s.	d.	Cr. £	s.	d.
Working Account	33	3	2			
Loan Account				38	13	11
Reserve Fund				19	10	0
Cash in hands of Treasurer	1	3	3			
In Savings Bank (Soufrière)		8	8			
„ „ „ (Barclay's)	23	8	10			
	£58	3	11	£58	3	11

Statement of Revenue and Expenditure.

Revenue.

	£	s.	d.
Loans repaid by members	23	0	9
Interest paid	22	7	8
Interest on Savings Bank deposit ...		6	11
	£45	15	4

Expenditure.

	£	s.	d.
Paid Barclay's Bank (Loan Account) ...	22	0	0
Paid „ „ (Interest) ...	14	17	11
Secretary	7	10	0
Auditor	1	0	0
Cost of remittance		6	1
Messenger		1	0
Stationery		5	2
	£46	0	2

(3) CHOISEUL AGRICULTURAL CREDIT SOCIETY.

Balance Sheet at 6.2.26.

	Dr. £	s.	d.	Cr £	s.	d.
Working Account	41	2	9			
Loan Account				35	1	6
Reserve Fund				11	8	0
Cash to Credit	5	6	9			
	£46	9	6	£46	9	6

Statement of Revenue and Expenditure.

Revenue.

	£	s.	d.
Interest paid by members	3	5	8
Loans repaid by members	40	14	1
	£43	19	9

Expenditure

	£	s.	d.
Barclay's Bank (Loan Account) ...	29	12	3
„ „ (Interest) ...	14	7	3
Secretary	4	0	0
Auditor	1	0	0
	£48	19	6

(4) VIEUX-FORT AGRICULTURAL CREDIT SOCIETY.

Balance Sheet at 31.12.25

	Dr. £	s.	d.	Cr. £	s.	d.
Loan Account				2	10	0
Working Account				4	17	7½
Reserve Fund				12	0	0
Cash to Credit	19	7	7½			
	£19	7	7½	£19	7	7½

Statement of Revenue and Expenditure.

Revenue

	£	s.	d.
Interest paid by members	8	2	6
Loans repaid	24	12	6
	£32	15	0

Expenditure

	£	s.	d.
Barclay's Bank—Interest paid ...	3	7	0½
„ „ Loan repaid on Account ...	18	18	0
Public Auditor 1925 and 1924 ...	2	0	0
Honorarium to Secretary (2 years) ...	6	5	0
Stationery		3	9
	£30	13	9½

(5) ANSE-LA-RAYE AGRICULTURAL CREDIT SOCIETY.

Balance Sheet at 31.12.25

	Dr.			Cr.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Loan Account				25	0	8
Working Account	32	14	7			
Reserve Fund				9	16	0
Cash to credit	2	2	1			
	£34	16	8	£34	16	8

Statement of Revenue and Expenditure.

Revenue.

	£	s.	d.
Loans repaid by members	14	16	0
Interest paid	5	16	3
	£20	12	3

Expenditure.

	£	s.	d.
Barclay's Bank (Loan Account) ...	11	4	8
,, ,, (Interest)	5	3	7
Stationery		2	3
Secretary	3	0	0
Auditor (fees for 1924 and 1925) ...	2	0	0
	£21	10	6

GOVERNMENT LIME JUICE FACTORY.

CROP 1925.

The Factory was opened on working days from January 3rd, to December 31st ; the crop bought and handled during this period was :—

266 barrels of Limes and 1,458 gallons of raw juice as against
287 barrels of Limes and 2,365 gallons of raw juice for 1924 ;

this produced 49 casks (2,149 gallons) of Concentrated Lime Juice.

The Factory also manufactured 14 casks of Concentrated Juice for planters who were unable to handle their crop.

The price paid at the Factory throughout the year for Lime Products was 2/6 per barrel for Limes and 3¾d per gallon for raw juice testing 12 ounces and over.

The entire crop was shipped to the United States ; Concentrated Juice realised only £20 per standard pipé less 2½ per cent. discount dock charges ; the price of Lime Oil was very satisfactory and high toward the end of the year.

The following is a financial statement of the results from crop ending December 31st, 1925 :—

BALANCE SHEET—CROP, 1925.

	Expenditure.	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d*
Jan.—Dec.	Purchase of Produce	346	3	4			
	Labour & Management	125	14	6			
	Fuel and Oil	112	8	6			
	Contingencies (including purchase of new pump)	58	1	4			
	Packages	27	5	0			
	Export and Sale of Produce (including Export Duty)	19	8	9			
	Insurance	10	0	0	699	11	5
	Other Charges.						
	To Government Officials for increased duties	30	0	0			
	Contribution to General Revenue for Manager's Salary	30	0	0			
	Interest on Loan No. 2 1924—£787 11 7 @ 5%	39	7	7			
	Sinking Fund on Loan No. 2 1924—£1,200 @ 5%	60	0	0	159	7	7
	Total Charges				858	19	0
	Receipts.						
	Proceeds of sale of 49 casks Concentrated Lime Juice and 11 cases Lime Oil ...	839	1	6			
	Sale of 1,672 lb. of lime seeds... ...	5	2	3			
	Concentrating for planters 15 casks of juice @ £2 15 0	41	5	0	885	8	9
	Credit Balance				£26	9	9
	Total Charges brought down ...				858	19	0
					£885	8	9

There was an increase in the number of peasant proprietors dealing with the Factory, the number of Pass book holders being 468.

The prices paid for Limes and raw juice represent a fair working profit to grower and manufacturer when Concentrated Lime Juice is selling at £11 per cask, as may be seen in the following items showing the distribution of manufacturing charges viz:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Cost of limes 60 barrels @ 2/6	7	10	0
„ casks, cooperage		11	0
„ Fuel	1	15	0
„ Contingencies		18	0
„ Export Duty and Sale of Produce ...		8	1
„ Insurance on Factory & Plant		4	1
„ Labour & Management	1	19	3
	13	5	5
"Other Charges"	3	5	0
	£16	10	5

Cost of manufacture £16 10 5.

Sales (*) = 1 Cask Concentrated Lime Juice ... =	£11	1	0
16·1 lb. Distilled Lime Oil ... ... =	5	19	4
Total proceeds from 60 barrels of Limes ... =	£17	0	4
Cost of manufacture ... ... =	16	10	5
Profit on manufacture ... ... =	£0	9	11

(*) Sixty barrels of Limes produce 1 cask C. L. Juice and 16·1 lb. D. oil.

The Factory generally has had a successful working year; it is probable having demonstrated cooperative Lime Products manufacture and given a lasting impulse to Lime cultivation, the Factory will be available for disposal to private interests which will continue the policy of encouraging Lime cultivation among petty proprietors.

ADMINISTRATION.

REPORT ON THE WORKING OF THE REUNION ESTATE AND LAND SETTLEMENT.

Land Settlement.—Five holders of allotments concluded their instalments during the year, pressure has been necessary on some holders who were backward in paying instalments.

The lots were very well cultivated mainly in sweet potatoes, cassava and pulse crops.

Revenue derived from sales of the lots was £45 2 9 as against £76 12 5 in 1924, this decrease is due to concluded instalments.

Revenue derived from House Rents was £3 9 0.

Choiseul Village Extension.—One lot was sold during the year, a few holders consistently in arrears should recommence their instalments early if they wish to avoid confiscation of the lot and amounts paid.

Revenue derived was £11 17 0 as against £25 17 10 for the previous year, this decrease is mainly due to unpaid instalments.

CORRESPONDENCE AND DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMATION ON AGRICULTURAL MATTERS.

There was a considerable increase in enquiries received during the year, 1,472 letters including 84 Minute Papers were dealt with; information was supplied for Overseas Settlement and official returns rendered including Blue Book, Stock Exchange, Imperial Botanical Conference, International Institute of Agriculture, Rome, and the College of Tropical Agriculture, Trinidad.

Two pamphlets "The Control of Panama Disease" and "Tobacco" were issued during the year.

Acknowledgements are gratefully made for the continued receipt of numerous Annual Reports and Bulletins, also for a copy of "America's Greatest Garden" (E. H. Wilson, M.A., V.M.H.), presented to the Library.

TRANSFER OF AGRICULTURAL HEADQUARTERS.

In accordance with the recommendations put forward by the local Agricultural Commission and approved by the Secretary of State for the Dominions and Colonies, the transfer of Agricultural Headquarters from Reunion to Castries was effected early in the present year, the Agricultural Offices being now located in the Botanic Gardens; it is hoped that certain alterations to the original building will be possible in order to adapt this rather inconvenient structure to requirements.

EXPENDITURE AND RECEIPTS.

Expenditure.

Continued economy has been necessary throughout the year, the present votes representing the minimum expenditure consistent with Agricultural progress.

In order to provide an effective system of control of certain diseases two Banana Inspectors were appointed in June, 1925.

The Votes for the Agricultural Department for the year were as follows:—

Personal Emoluments	£785	0	0
Transport and Subsistence Allowance to Agricultural Superintendent, Inspector, Agricultural Credit Societies, and Foreman, Agricultural and Botanical Station, Reunion	30	0	0
Subsistence Allowance, Overseer and Agricultural Officer (fixed) ...	36	0	0
Forage Allowance to Agricultural Superintendent	48	0	0
Forage Allowance to Overseer and Agricultural Officer	48	0	0
Labour, Agricultural and Botanical Station, Reunion, and Castries Botanical Gardens	350	0	0
Seeds, Plants, Manures, &c., and plant disinfection	20	0	0
Miscellaneous Requisites	40	0	0
Printing, Binding and Purchase of Books	8	0	0
Maintenance of Transport Animals, Carts, and Pedigree Pigs ...	24	0	0
Minor repairs to Buildings	10	0	0
Contingencies	10	0	0
Freight and Transport of plants	5	0	0
	£1,414	0	0

Of the above Votes the amounts voted for "Transport," etc., and "Seeds," etc., were found insufficient and were supplemented by Special Votes of £24 0 0 and £18 0 0, respectively; in addition Special Warrants provided for "Salaries" for two Banana Inspectors and "Subsistence Allowances," total £52 3 0; and "Contingencies" for banana inspection, £2 10 0.

The total actual expenditure for the Department was £1,496 9 5.

Receipts.

The receipts from the sales of plants, produce, etc., from the Agricultural Stations were as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Castries Gardens	8	7	6
Agricultural Experiment Station ...	80	13	1
	£89	0	7

Official Visitors to the Stations.

His Excellency Sir Frederick Seton James, K.B.E., C.M.G., Governor and Commander-in-Chief, Windward Islands, and Lady James; His Honour Lt.-Colonel W. B. Davidson-Houston, C.M.G., Administrator, Honourable G. D. Mackie, M.B.E., Acting Colonial Secretary, His Honour Captain O. Plunkett, Chief Justice, Captain Sharpe, A.D.C., E. E. Turner, Chief of Police, Professor S. F. Ashby, Mycologist to the Imperial Department of Agriculture, Trinidad, F. G. Harcourt, F.R.H.S., Superintendent of Agriculture, Antigua.

Other Visitors to the Stations.

A large number of visitors signed the Visitors' Books during the year.

STAFF CHANGES.

Mr. E. A. Walters, Agricultural Superintendent, was absent on Vacation Leave from April 14th to April 27th.

Mr. R. W. Niles, Agricultural Officer, was absent on Sick Leave from September 4th to September 15th.

Mr. W. W. Arno, Clerk to Agricultural Superintendent, was absent on Sick Leave December 29th to December 31st.

Miss A. M. Y. Warrican, Clerk, Government Lime Juice Factory, was absent on Vacation Leave from May 9th to May 23rd.

Mr. B. Joshua, Junior Agricultural Assistant, Castries, vacated his post in January 1925.

Mr. E. L. Daniel commenced duties as Junior Agricultural Assistant, (now Foreman) in February, he was transferred to Reunion as Foreman, Experiment Station in November.

Mr. E. B. Smith, Foreman, Reunion Experiment Station, vacated his post in November, and Miss A. M. Y. Warrican, Clerk, Government Lime Juice Factory, vacated her post in December, 1925, owing to reorganisation of the Department.

Messrs, J. Sanchez and S. Joseph were appointed Banana Inspectors in June.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

Meteorological observations were recorded thrice daily at Reunion and Castries Stations.

Weather. Weather conditions generally were favourable to cultivation, early planting was possible with a high rainfall in January, the subsequent six months—February—July were somewhat dry and planting was rendered difficult; the weather was favourable for reaping of the cane crop.

Rainfall. The total rainfall recorded at the Botanic Gardens for the year was 76·76 inches, being 3·77 inches below the average for 25 years (= 80·63 inches); the distribution throughout the year was above normal for January and again in August; rainfall for the remainder of the year was below normal, monthly distribution was good.

Temperature. Temperature records (Reunion) show a Mean Noon temperature of 83·90°F. in the shade, and a Mean Night temperature of 71·60°F., the range of temperature was 27° (Min. 64°. Max. 91°).

Pressure. Barometric pressure was normal, except for two low pressure areas (29·49 inches) occuring on September 24th, and October 31st, accompanied by Western winds and heavy seas. Mean 29·71 inches.

"Storm and Gale" conditions occurred on three occasions only, two of which in June were accompanied by thunder storms, "Maximum precipitation" being recorded on June 28th, the numbers of "Clear sky" and "Overcast days" were about equal.

The following tables are appended :—

1. Meteorological Observations at Reunion,
2. Rainfall Returns from 26 recording stations.

Rainfall Returns. The Agricultural Superintendent begs to thank the regular recorders for their returns, and wishes to point out to recorders who do not submit regularly that an incomplete rainfall record is very unsatisfactory for Departmental use and an unreliable guide for planting operations.

APPENDIX 1.

STATION REUNION—* = 61° 3′ 20″ W. † = 13° 46′ 50″ N. H = 500ft.

Months.	Mean Pressure.	Air Temperature. = Degrees F.										Tension of Vapour				Relative Humidity.			
		7	12	5	Mean.	Means		Absolute Max. & Min.							Mean.	7	12	5	Mean.
						Min	Max	Min	Date	Max	Date								
January ...	29·80	72·5	80·6	76·3	76·5	67·6	79·6	64	24th	84	16th					81·0	66·5	73·5	73·6
February ...	29·75	72·3	81·7	78·2	77·4	67·5	80·9	65	3rd	87	9th					80·5	60·0	69·5	69·6
March ...	29·70	73·5	83·6	79·6	78·9	69·1	82·9	64	14th	89	15th					77·1	54·3	65·9	65·7
April ...	29·69	77·2	85·2	81·7	81·4	71·8	84·5	67	15th	90	9th					78·5	56·5	62·2	65·7
May ...	29·73	77·5	85·3	82·4	81·7	72·1	84·5	69	6th	90	2nd					77·1	58·1	64·2	66·4
June ...	29·72	77·4	83·1	81·1	80·5	72·5	83·8	69	29th	89	12th					80·5	66·3	71·6	72·8
July ...	29·76	78·7	85·3	82·3	82·1	73·6	84·9	71	20th	90	27th					82·5	63·7	67·5	71·2
August ...	29·74	78·0	83·8	81·2	81·0	73·9	84·1	72	6th	88	1st					85·5	72·3	76·1	77·9
September	29·65	78·4	84·8	81·4	81·5	73·9	84·6	70	7th	88	5th					84·5	67·0	75·8	75·8
October ...	29·63	78·0	84·8	80·7	81·2	73·9	84·2	71	30th	89	4th					84·5	69·0	77·5	77·0
November ...	29·65	77·2	83·4	79·1	79·9	73·4	83·8	69	13th	91	10th					85·5	69·3	78·8	77·8
December ...	29·72	75·1	85·7	80·0	80·3	70·6	84·0	69	17th	90	27th					81·2	58·0	73·5	70·9
Year ...	29·71	76·3	83·9	80·3	80·2	71·6	83·5	64	Jan. 24th	91	Nov. 10th					81·5	63·4	71·2	72·0

* = The longitude of the station. † = The latitude of the station. H = Height above mean sea level.

ht. = 3′ 0″ *hr.* = Rim = 1′ 0″ REUNION STATION.

Months.	Amount of Cloud.				Rainfall.			Weather. No. of Days of						Wind. No. of Observations of								
	7 a.m.	noon	5 p.m.	Mean.	Total.	Max.	Date.	Rain.	Snow. Hail.	Thunder Storms.	Clear Sky.	Overcast.	Gales.	N.	N.E	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W	W.	NW	Gale.
January ...	7		6	7	7·36	1·74	17th	31		1	15	16	0	0	0	44	45	4	0	0	0	0
February...	6		6	6	0·84	0·21	19th	13		0	19	9	0	0	0	46	29	3	0	0	0	6
March ...	6		6	6	1·05	0·20	20th	14		0	19	12	0	2	1	18	63	2	1	3	0	3
April ...	6		6	6	4·30	2·77	10th	17		0	27	3	1	0	1	27	57	3	0	0	0	2
May ...	6		6	6	3·18	1·05	23rd	22		0	19	12	0	1	2	28	54	7	1	0	0	0
June ...	7		8	8	10·64	3·82	28th	26		2	9	21	2	0	0	10	70	4	0	0	0	6
July ...	7		6	6	5·73	0·72	1st	30		3	15	16	0	0	2	25	57	8	0	0	0	1
August ...	7		7	7	11·46	2·06	7th	31		2	8	23	0	0	0	59	29	2	1	0	0	2
September	6		7	8	6·57	0·74	6th	27		2	9	21	0	0	0	82	1	0	0	0	0	7
October ...	7		7	7	5·83	0·88	12th	26		4	12	19	0	0	0	48	36	0	0	0	0	9
November	7		7	7	7·08	2·68	16th	25		1	10	20	0	0	0	31	49	0	0	0	0	10
December .	7		7	7	1·63	0·67	28th	17		0	20	11	0	0	0	72	6	0	0	0	0	15
Year ...	6		6	6·6	65·67	3·82	28th Jne	279		15	182	183	3	3	6	490	496	33	3	3	0	61

ht. = Height of the Therms. above the ground in feet. *hr.* = Height of Raingauge above the ground in feet.

APPENDIX II.

RAINFALL RETURNS, 1925.

Observation Stations.	January.	February.	March	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Total.	Maximum in one day and date.		No. of days on which rain fell.
	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.		
Reduit Estate, Gros Islet	4·73	2·76	·75	1·21	1·41	4·85	4·38	10·17	8·39	4·05	6·49	3·03	52·22	3·14	Aug. 20th	166
Corinth ,, Castries...	7·31	2·36	1·48	1·19	4 58	7·27	6·46	14·21	14·32	4·94	14·85	3·93	82·90	4·15	,, 20th	153
Marquis ,, ,, ...	6·76	3·91	1·60	1·10	2·89	7·56	7·32	14·59	11·76	5·07	12·17	4·80	79·53	3·00	,, 20th	237
Choc ,, ,, ...	6 35	1·84	1·81	2·12	4·09	6·98	6·11	14·08	10·22	4·05	14·26	4·42	76·33	3·85	Nov. 15th	236
Botanic Gardens ,, ...	7·91	2·29	2·44	1·78	3·76	7·60	6·27	14·37	8·82	6·07	11·67	3·78	76·76	2·54	Jan. 17th	262
Government House ,, ...	8·57	2·23	2·94	1·76	3·12	8·78	5·49	9·47	7·97	6·34	11·15	3·77	71·59	3·83	Nov. 16th	281
The Barracks, Vigie, ,, ..	6·89	1·93	2·03	1·81	2·71	6·88	5·53	12·54	8·51	5·67	11·75	2·69	68·94	4·13	,, 16th	230
Cr. Lands, Cul-de-Sac ,, ..	7· 7	2 48	5·13	·44	3·40	9·53	7·32	14·34	12·05	14·23	18·30	3·95	98·74	4·90	,, 16th	188
Vanard Estate ,, ...	8·74	2·40	2·62	2·25	3·84	10·43	9·18	15·40	11·67	11·58	15·12	6·41	99·64	5·17	,, 15th	266
Belair Est., Roseau, Anse-la-Raye ...	8·01	1·82	2·59	·55	·97	7·51	3·85	9·33	6·49	7·69	11·09	2·80	62·70	5·00	,, 17th	116
Invergoil , ,, ..	3·74	1 00	1·07	·78	1·45	10·93	1·99	9·60	7·36	1·48	8·95	3·22	51·57	5·30	,, 16th	232
La Perle ,, Soufrière...	12·79	1·81	2·08	3·35	3·39	14·52	7·74	16·04	14·41	10·28	15·09	3·85	105·35	5·00	,, 15th	225
Ruby ,, ,, ...	11·83	1·65	1·79	2·86	3·10	13·69	6·39	15·40	12·49	9·62	14·50	4·18	97·50	4·13	,, 16th	215
Agric Experiment Station. Choiseul	7·36	·84	1·05	4·30	3·18	10·64	5·73	11·46	6·57	5·83	7·08	1·63	65·67	3·82	Jne 28th	279
Park Estate ,, ...	11·85	1·73	2·33	5·73	5·07	12·19	7·37	15·60	10·89	8·42	12·30	5·01	98·49	3·36	Nov. 16th	247
Woodlands Estate ,, ...	12·57	3·32	2·44	4·56	6·46	13·87	8·13	16·73	13·88	8·46	14·02	7·04	111·48	5·20	Jne 30th	193
Londonderry ., Laborie	9·66	2·57	2·04	5·39	5·26	10·92	6·78	14·01	9·49	6·71	9·13	3·37	85·33	2·91	Apr. 9th	268
Black Bay ,, ,, ...	4·61	1·50	·75	4·20	3·35	9·14	3·30	9·77	5·15	5·05	6·50	1·87	55·19	3·50	,, 11th	107
Retraite Est. Vieux-Fort	6·22	2·17	1·27	4·86	3·63	12·36	4·74	12·10	5·47	5·20	7·06	1·89	66·97	3·38	,, 10th	153
Moule-à-Chique ,,	3·85	1 48	·44	3·55	4·43	5·28	4·56	9·58	4·31	3·45	6·58	1·02	48·53	2·08	,, 10th	144
Beausejour Estate ,, ...	5·11	1·02	·52	4·08	2 19	9·35	4·18	9·77	4·85	5·32	6·54	1·25	54·18	3·60	Jne 28th	128
Pointe Sable ,, ,, ..	4·54	·36	1·18	3·69	3·17	6·96	3·36	8·97	5·42	3·95	6·30	·49	48·39	2·70	,, 28th	137
Troumassée ,, Micoud	5·14	2·20	1·42	1·43	1·47	5·15	3·50	7·32	5·48	4·50	7·97	·82	46·40	2·10	,, 30th	70
Mamiku ,, Dennery	4·40	2·90	1·06	·90	2·89	6·25	4·31	9·84	7·82	6·80	8·66	3·76	59·59	2·40	Nov. 15th	260
La Cayé ,, ,, ..	3·86	2·27	·77	1·48	2·29	6·17	4·73	9·82	8·47	6·35	10·05	4·05	60·31	3·00	,, 15th	115
Resource ,, ,, ..	5·20	2·14	1·49	1 23	2·24	6·30	4·35	10·42	8·71	6·56	11·29	3·63	63·56	3·99	,, 15th	204

PRICES OF NURSERY PLANTS, ETC.

The prices of plants do not include the cost of the boxes or baskets.

All prices specified are for plants of ordinary quality. The prices of plants not included in this list will be fixed by the Agricultural Superintendent.

An addition of 100% is made on the prices for all plants supplied for export from the Colony

No plants are supplied on Public Holidays.

At least six months previous notice must be given when large quantities of such plants as Coffee, Cacao, Rubber, Nutmegs, Bananas, etc., are required as it is not feasible to keep large supplies of these on hand. At least ten months' notice is required for large supplies of plants such as Para Rubber, the seeds of which have to be specially imported.

Complaints as to the quality or quantity of plants, etc , supplied, or as to the prices charged, should be made in writing and will be referred to the Agricultural Superintendent.

PLANTS.

Oranges	6d per plant
Oranges Sour	3d „
Mangoes Grafted	1/- „
Lime Plants	1/- per hundred
Coffee Plants	2/6 „
Cacao	2d per plant
Eucalyptus	2d „
Avocado Pear	3d „
Guava	3d „
Casuarinas	1d „
Palms various	6d „
Ornamental Plants (various)	2d to 1/- per plant
Seeds per lb. (various)	3d to 6d per lb.
Seeds Vegetable	4d to 6d per packet
Plants for wind-breaks, hedges etc., other than the above economics	1d to 2d per plant.

"TROPICAL AGRICULTURE"

THE JOURNAL

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IMPERIAL COLLEGE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE

PUBLISHED MONTHLY AT TRINIDAD: BRITISH WEST INDIES.

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